

DOCUMENT 19 – RESOLUTION REGARDING THE FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

November 29, 1850

TRANSCRIPTION

Whereas the Fugitive Slave Act, recently passed by Congress, is revolting to our moral sense, and an outrage upon our feelings of justice and humanity, because it disregards all the securities which the Constitution and Laws have thrown around personal liberties, and its direct tendency is to alienate the people from their love and reverence for the Government and Institutions of our Country — therefore;

Resolved, That as the Supreme Court of the United States has solemnly adjudged that State Officers are under no obligations to fulfil duties imposed upon them, as such Officers, by any Act of Congress, we do not therefore consider it a part of our duty, or the duty of the City Officers of the City of Chicago, to aid or assist in the arrest of fugitives from oppression;— and by withholding such aid or assistance we do not believe that our “Harbour appropriations ^{will} ~~would~~ be withheld,” “our Rail Roads injured,” ~~or~~ “our Commerce destroyed” — or ^{that,} _^ “treason would be committed against our Government.”